

SAFETY ALERT



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339



AFZX-SA

NOV 22 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Road Conditions Contribute to a POV Accident -- Safety Alert 05-02

1. An accident recently occurred involving a Soldier driving on Louisiana Highway 111. The Soldier, not wearing a seatbelt, was traveling too fast while it was raining. The Soldier overcompensated, lost control, and crashed the vehicle. The result of the accident was that the Soldier suffered a fractured skull requiring brain surgery.
2. This accident highlights the constant need for leaders at all levels to emphasize the mandatory wearing of seatbelts, as well as driving more cautiously when hazardous road conditions exist. This driver was traveling at excessive speeds given the rain-slicked conditions of the highway.
3. Soldiers, their family members, and civilians must wear their seatbelts because it is the law and because it will save lives. Additionally, drivers must exercise greater care when road conditions worsen as a result of rain, fog, or other weather conditions affecting the safe operation of the POV.
4. The risk of vehicle accidents increases with the seasonally wet Louisiana weather conditions. Always use caution when the road conditions change, and most importantly, always wear your seatbelt.

ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION, BRIEF TO ALL SOLDIERS, AND POST ON BULLETIN BOARDS!

*Leaders -
Ensure this is
briefed prior to
releasing on
soldiers for
Thanksgiving*

DISTRIBUTION:

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MICHAEL D. BARBERO
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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